



Note from the President by Dan Reuter



Greetings and welcome 2020!

Hello Friends of Cross Lake and Snake River!

As President I would like to personally apologize for taking so long to get this newsletter published. The Board and myself have been working hard to get the most up-to-date information out to you for this upcoming season.

As you know, Governor Walz has issued extended stay at home orders and the State is slowly opening up.

At this time that I write this newsletter, some of CLA's events have been canceled except the 4th of July Boat Parade and the Golf outing. The Dinner Dance is still to be determined. We believe we can still accomplish these activities by adhering to the State's social distancing requirements.

Three Noteworthy Things to Watch For:

The Board intends to have a draft of an Amended and Restatement of the current Bylaws to be reviewed by the membership. The last amendments were in 1994. We believe as a Board that it is time to update the Bylaws as some of the language is not current with Minnesota Statutes requirements. We will also be adding the new term limited that were voted on last year. A draft copy for your review will be published on our CLA website. If you have any questions or comments regarding any of the changes, please email the Bylaw Committee at info@crosslakeassociation.org

Once the members approve the changes, we ratify and put it into final form to be published on the CLA website. If, due to the COVID restrictions we are unable to hold the Fall meeting, we will vote on the changes at our next Spring meeting in May 2021.

The Water Quality Committee will be working on assembling the Zebra Mussel plates in the coming months the plexiglass is now on order. We will be assembling 100 Zebra Mussel sampler plates this summer. There will be no charge for the plates. Anyone who is interested in receiving one for their dock, please contact Mary Reuter at waterquality@crosslakeassociation.org. If we end up with a request over 100, we will make more!

The Board had a great meeting with Leslie George, Area Fisheries Supervisor from the Division of Fish & Wildlife, MN DNR. Leslie talked to us about the blue gill focused initiative for Cross Lake and Pokegama. I've attached her article at the back of this newsletter explaining the initiative.

If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership either on line or via mail.

Last but not least, I would like to recognize our crack team of Board Members for their outstanding work. Larry Kretz has worked very hard on getting information for the no wake ordinance, and golf outing, Jody Klitzke and Mary Reuter who have worked long hours on our fabulous newsletter and Shanie Berry our treasurer who keeps track of our membership and continues to do a fabulous job of keeping track of the Association's funds. I am looking forward to working with Joe Paget, Margo Rothenbacher and Don Deutsch on their prospective committees and projects.

Please know, the Board and the Water Quality Committee will still be working on projects for the Association throughout the year.

Thank you for your continued support to CLA. We couldn't do it without you!

To all of you have a wonderful summer and I hope to see you on the lake!

Dan

Summer is here!

Welcome to the 1st edition of the Cross Lake Crossings for 2020! We hope you continue to enjoy our publications and would like to it's way.

Membership can be renewed at:

website:
<https://crosslakeassociation.org>

mail info: info@crosslakeassociation.org

Dan Reuter, President
dan@crosslakeassociation.org
612-209-6843

Larry Kretz, VP Fisheries
larry@crosslakeassociation.org
612-845-9821

Jody Klitzke, Secretary Newsletter
651-245-8595
jody.klitzke@crosslakeassociation.org

Shanie Berry, Treasurer Webmaster/Social Media Chair Membership Chair
612-230-6986
shaniebeth@crosslakeassociation.org

Mary Reuter, Director Water Quality Chair Fair Parade Co-Chair
maryreuter@gmail.com
612-209-6886

Joe Paget, Director Pine County Co-Fair Chair
651-353-1637

Margo Rothenbacher, Director Fall Dinner Dance Chair
651-278-5034

Don Deutsch, Director Water Quality Tester
651-442-3796

Cross Lake Association of Pine County
PO Box 325 • Pine City, MN 55063

Cross Lake 2020 Calendar of Events

Board Meeting

Saturday, January 18th

Water Quality Meeting

Saturday, February 8th

Board Meeting

Saturday, February 15th

Board Meeting

Saturday, March 21st

Water Quality Meeting

Saturday, April 25th

Board Meeting

Saturday, April 18th

Spring Membership Meeting

Canceled due to Covid19

Garage Sale

Canceled due to Covid19

Water Quality Meeting

Saturday, June 13th

Freedom Fest

Canceled due to Covid19

4th of July Parade

Saturday, July 4th - starts at 1:00

Board Meeting

Saturday, July 18th

Water Quality Meeting

Saturday, July 25th

Pine County Fair

Canceled due to Covid19

Board Meeting

Saturday, August 15th

Fall Membership Meeting

Saturday, Sept 12th

Pine City Country Club

9:00 - 11:00 am

Fall/Dinner Dance

Saturday - August - TBD

Water Quality Meeting

Saturday, October 10th

Board Meeting

Saturday, October 17th

Final Board Meeting for 2020

Saturday, November 20th

Crab Stuffed Mushrooms



Our family tried this mushroom recipe and oh my, it was pretty tasty. If you didn't get a chance to try something like this, you will thoroughly enjoy it! Happy cooking!

Ingredients:

- 24 fresh cremini mushrooms, stems removed.
- 1/2 cup chopped hearts of palm
- 5 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh chives
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh tarragon
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 3/4 teaspoon Creole seasoning (such as Tony Chachere's)
- 1 clove garlic, grated
- 8 ounces fresh lump crab-meat, drained and picked over
- 3 tablespoons whole-wheat panko breadcrumbs
- 2 teaspoons extra-virgin oil
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- Lemon wedges for serving



Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees
2. Place mushroom caps, gill-sides down. Roast until the mushrooms release juices and are tender when pierced with a knife, about 15 minutes
3. While the mushrooms are baking, mix hearts of palm, mayonnaise, chives, tarragon, lemon juice, Creole seasoning and garlic in a medium bowl; stir until blended. add crab; stir gently to combine.
4. Adjust oven temp to low broil. Turn the mushrooms over and stuff each one. Combine panko, oil and salt in a small bowl; sprinkle evenly over the mushrooms. Broil until the crab mixture is warmed through and the breadcrumbs are crisp and deeply browned, about 5 minutes. Transfer to serving platter; serve immediately with lemon wedges.

Secretaries Desk

Jody Klitzke

2020 is well upon us and we still have lots that we can do to keep busy, around the house, visiting family and friends and just keeping yourself healthy.

I personally enjoy inspirational sayings, so here is one that I read recently that I wanted to share with all of you:

"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

I like to think about the people that have inspired me, the people that I have had to say goodbye to and the people that continue to play a role in my life. Keep them all in your heart for this coming year and be thankful for all the wonderful things that you have in your lives!

Happy Summer to all of you!



The Parade Must Go On!



In the midst of a summer filled with event cancellations, the Cross Lake Association is ecstatic to share the 4th of July Boat Parade show will go on! The parade is always scheduled for July 4th, regardless of what day of the week it lands on.

The parade is a time honored tradition for the Lake Association, it's residents and community. The Association has been sponsoring the parade for over 30 years!

We welcome anyone to participate and the cost is FREE, FREE, FREE!! Registration will occur on the lake an hour before the parade beginning at 12:00 pm at the north end of the lake near Norway Point.

This year's master of ceremonies will be our very own CLA President, Dan Reuter. Look for Dan's pontoon decked out with our Cross Lake Association banner to make sure you get registered for prizes and more! At one 1:00 pm sharp, Dan will lead the parade South along the West shore and back North along the East shore. The full parade route runs about two hours.

The event is kind of magical. From watching the spectators head to the lake to grab their spot on the dock, visitors from Pokegama anchoring mid-lake, positioned for the perfect view, to the bustle of activity around the lake, the morning of while participants are busy perfecting their float decorations.

Float decorations vary widely from patriotic, Hawaiian or theme related, if declared. Last year's theme was a tribute to first responders, in memory of Conservation Officer Wynn. While the likely choice for the 2020 parade would be pandemic related we have opted to keep things light and have a few hours of COVID free fun. We certainly encourage anyone who would like to show support of our health care workers or other pandemic related topics to absolutely do so! However this year's theme is...NO THEME! We hope this allows people to let their creativity flow. There are no rules or requirements on decorations, they can be as elaborate or as minimal as folks like; we simply ask that they are tasteful and respectful.

Reminiscent on parades past, one of my most favorite floats was Bill and Jeanne Casby's pontoon decorated as a bubble bath...genius! It's always fun to see the creativity of the participants.

And no parade is complete without candy! Nancy Czupta, affectionately known at the "the jet ski candy lady" graciously brings about the rear of the parade chucking goodie bags to onlookers from her jet ski. Nancy has always done this purely out for the generosity of her heart and love of the parade.

Last year we upped the prize amounts in hopes of continuing to grow the parade.

Cash Prizes are as follows:

- 1st - \$200
- 2nd - \$100
- 3rd - 50
- Honorary Mention - (6) \$25

Note: You must complete the parade route to be considered for prizes.

Start brainstorming your float ideas! If that's not your gig, we hope you'll pull your floatie, lawn chair or piece of dock and cherish the tradition!

Questions, visit our website at crosslakeassociation.org or email is at info@crosslakeassociation.org.

EVENT SUMMARY:

Date: July 4th

Registration: 12:00 pm (near Norway Point) Parade

Start: 1:00 pm Parade Route: South via west shore, north via east shore.

Weather: If the weather is inclement, watch our Facebook page or website (crosslakeassociation.org) for updates.



Cross Lake Dinner and Dance Alternative by Margo Rothenbacher

It is very hard to keep 6 feet away when you are dancing on the dance floor!!

So this year, we are looking at planning a Cross Lake Picnic where the whole family is invited. Preliminary thoughts might be in Robinson Park with small games and activities for all! Each family could bring their own picnic basket or this could be an opportunity to support Pine City restaurant business who have struggled during the epidemic. Light refreshments and snacks will be served.

We will be sending out more information on a post card soon.

I am looking for ideas and help to set this up!! If interested, please call Margo Rothenbacher at 651-278-5034 or margo.rothenbacher@gmail.com



Contributor: Larry Kreatz

Pine City Country Club is still holding this event at this time at 8:00 am. Steve Gamec and his staff have taken every measure to ensure players safety is taken into consideration. Online payments, no touch cart rental, removal of ball washers, no touch flags/cups, and social distancing are currently in place. Any events taking place at the 19th are TBD

Please contact Pine City CC for further details. 320-269-3848 or golf@pinacitycc.com



See you Next Spring 2021

WE'RE NOTHING WITHOUT YOU!

The Cross Lake / Snake River Board of Directors would like to sincerely thank all our members for your continued support of the Cross Lake / Snake River Association. It is your support that allows us to exist, to serve you!

Despite the uncertainty of COVID-19, our Cross Lake Association members demonstrated their commitment to the water quality of Cross Lake & Snake River during our annual membership drive. We are off to a very solid start! For that, we thank you!

If you haven't had an opportunity to return your annual membership yet, we hope you will consider doing so now. Included in this newsletter, you can find a membership form for your convenience. You may also complete your membership registration on our website at crosslakeassociation.org.

Thank you for entrusting in us and allowing us to serve you and this precious natural resource.

Shanie Berry

Membership Chair

	YTD 2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
HOUSEHOLDS	176	226	211	187	188
MEMBERSHIP	\$7,995.00	\$8,547.00	\$9,780.00	\$6,720.00	\$7,615.00

No Wake and Stocking Cross Lake

by
Larry Kreatz

No Wake Update

The CLA is continuing to be an advocate for safe boating and protecting your property on both the Snake River & Cross Lake.

The current COVID restrictions are limiting Pine County to virtual meetings until further notice and there is a mountain of

information/documentation required for this to pass. This ordinance will impact anyone using the waterways not just CLA members and a public hearing has been suggested when assemblies are permitted. Joe Paget has agreed to help this campaign move forward bringing his 30 years with the Sheriff's department providing experience and insight. The DNR and Pine County Sheriff are working with the CLA and hopefully we will have updates soon. In the meantime, please respect the suggested markers, practice common sense, and don't hit the rocks!



Stocking Cross Lake

The CLA met with Leslie George Area Supervisor with

Fish & Wildlife last month to discuss possible Bluegill & Walleye initiatives to improve the populations and quality. We obtained

applications for stocking but, we are still gathering information

and in the discovery phase. We are excited about the possibilities

but, right now the timing is not ideal. COVID, our health, and our recovery as community comes first.

Some interesting about stocking fish from the DNR website:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fisheries/management/stock.html>





Water Quality

by Mary Ryster

Geetings! I hope your summer is off to a great start!

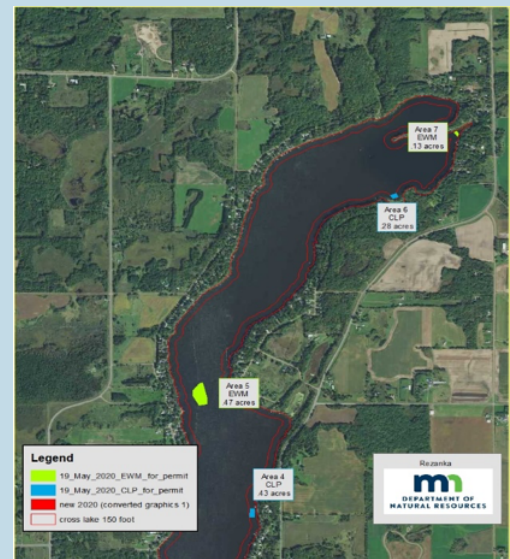
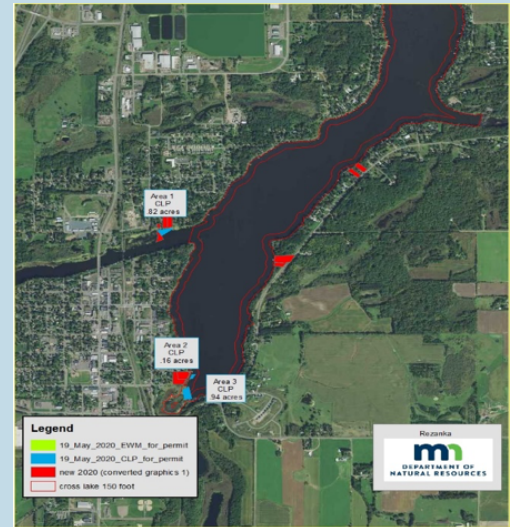
Update on Invasive Species and Treatment

As the Governor continues to lighten up on restrictions, the DNR was able to conduct Cross Lake's lake survey at the end of April. About 28 lake front properties were treated by Lake Management (who CLA contracts with for treatment) for Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP). The CLP treatment is a 150 feet lake ward and further away from shore. Once the permit is in place, the DNR sends the approved maps to Lake Management for the invasive species treatment after a spot check inspection has been conducted. The legend on the maps provide you with the information in color regarding the areas treated. As you can see, a lot of Eurasian Milfoil was found on the sunken island this year.

From those maps, Lake Management sets out the buoys on the lake prior to treatment and then treats. You may notice something that looks like a blown-up plastic bag buoyed in front of your property. That's it!

The DNR surveyed up to the railroad bridge on the Snake River this year and a HUGE concentration of CLP was found east of the railroad bridge and a batch was found in an area just past the bridge in front of some homes. The DNR also spoke to one of the property owners in this area and they were VERY appreciative for our efforts.

Also of news is the south end is now being treated. Two years ago, the DNR checked and found a large concentration of both CLP and EWM.



What Should You Do if You think You have Curly Leaf Pond Weed or Eurasian Water Milfoil

If you think you may have either of these two invasive plants in your lake shore area, please email me. There are several ways to identify if it is there. I will gladly come out and take a sample and send it to the DNR. At present, I am the only person who is AIS certified to test and gather samples by the State of Minnesota/DNR.

Please know that CLA obtains a permit for treatment for only these two invasive plants and treatment is performed only one time a year. Treatment begins at 150 from shoreline. Anything closer to your shoreline you may need a separate permit from the DNR Fisheries. You can call the Little Falls Office if you have questions about your beach front lake plants at (320) 232-1079.

For more information on when a permit is not needed take a look at the following DNR websites.

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/permits.html>

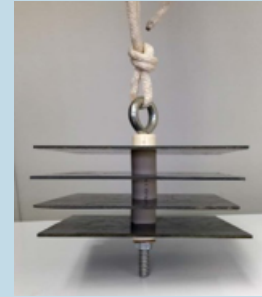
<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/regulations.html>

Zebra Mussel Plate Updates

The Zebra mussel sampler plates will be soon assembled. The plexiglass has been hard to find due to the COVID-19. The shipment should arrive by mid-June. It has been 2 years since we gathered a list of those who wanted one so if you are still interested in having one, please email me at waterquality@crosslakeassociation.org. We will be making around 100 to give away at no charge.

Please feel free to donate to Water Quality at anytime. We have future plans for other initiatives for Cross Lake and the Snake River coming up.

Currently neither Cross Lake nor the Snake River have Zebra mussels at the present time, and as a committee, we feel providing the plates is a good way to stay proactive. The plates will look something like this.



The Zebra mussel plates are surfaces on which zebra mussels will settle after they complete their larval ("veliger") stage. (Below are zebra mussels attached to a clam shell.)

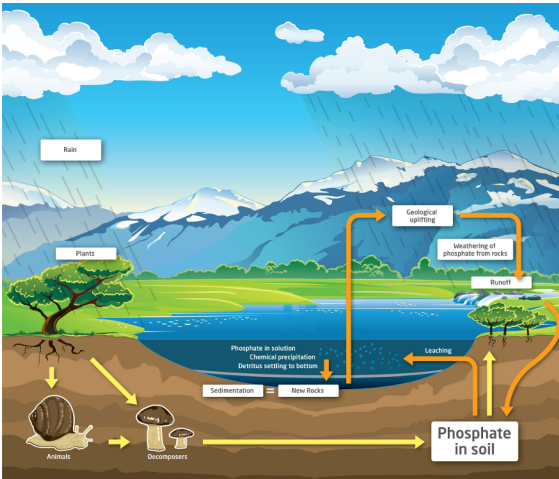


Water Testing

The Water Quality team members have been conducting water testing on the lake. We are using the Quanta Hydrolab. We are checking three areas for temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance/salinity, at various depths. Also checked is water clarity using a Secchi disc tube used to measure water transparency or turbidity in bodies of water.

At the present time, the lake pH is around 7 -8.

Note: *The pH of most inland fresh waters containing fish ranges from about 6 to 9 (Ellis 1937), with most waters, particularly those with healthy, diverse, and productive fish and macroinvertebrates communities having a pH between approximately 6.5 and 8.5 units (Ellis 1937; McKee and Wolf 1963; NTAC 1968; NAS 1972).*



Healthy Watershed and Healthy Lake by Don Deutsch

My interest in our lake and river is all about water quality. Soon after joining the lake association I was drafted into the environmental committee. Since then I have become active in stream, runoff and lake testing. This provided me with very direct contact to the water quality measurements being taken.

I enjoy the work and have been getting objective data about the water quality.

You may have seen a Report by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, "Snake River Watershed Water Assessment and Trends Update". I found the report very encouraging regarding changes to water quality in the recent past. My summary of the report goes something like things seem to be generally good and there have been no significant negative changes to water quality in the watershed. As Cross Lake receives 100 % of the Snake River flow the waters of the Snake are a major factor in the quality of our lake water.

Our biggest problem is the phosphorous concentration in our lake's water. If there is one thing to concentrate on it would be lowering the phosphorous concentration. How we would go about reducing phosphorous is a difficult question. There is not an easy and cheap way to get this trend moving downward as I would wish.

The optimist in me is happy that Cross lake is in generally good health. The pessimist in me worries that water quality could be better or may get worse. Usually I try to be optimistic. I believe our lake and river will remain healthy and will improve. We all have some opportunities to make things better and I believe we see the water get healthier in the years to come. I hope we will all do our part. Thanks for your time.

15 ways to reduce nutrients in lakes and streams

<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/15-ways-reduce-nutrients-lakes-and-streams>

Safety Around the Water

by
Joe Paget



We are blessed to have this wonderful lake to enjoy. My wife and I moved up to Cross Lake when I retired from the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office. In my 30 years with the Sheriff's Office I responded to many preventable water tragedies. Most of these incidents involved individuals taking chances that needlessly turn tragic. According to the US Coast Guard 80% of boating related incidents last year were not wearing life jackets.

The most common denominator in water/boating accidents is not wearing a life jacket (personal flotation device.) This is unfortunate as it's also the most preventable. The excuses for not wearing a life vest are numerous but, so are the reasons you should.

1. I have them onboard the boat – accidents happen at any moment without warning
2. I am a strong swimmer – water logged clothing & shoes, cramps, a large wave
3. It's too hot, I don't look cool – New improvements & styles are more comfortable

It is important to talk to your kids about not swimming beyond their skill level and to wear a PFD. Accidents happen when you least expect them and natural bodies of water are not like a pool. Sudden drop offs, currents (Snake River/Dam) and changes in temperature while swimming catch you off guard. Submerged debris/logs can appear out of nowhere especially during high water. Plus, brightly colored vests make you easier to locate just in case.

The water is a great place to have family time and create wonderful memories. It is important to have frequent conversations with your family about being safe while enjoying the water. It is also very important for adults to model the practice of wearing your PFD, your life jacket, while enjoying the water.



2020

**Cross Lake
Association**

**BOARD
MEMBERS**

President
Daniel Reuter

Vice President
Larry Kreatz

Secretary
Jody Klitzke

Treasurer
Shanie Berry

Director
Margo Rothenbacher

Director
Joe Paget

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Mary Reuter

Director
Don Deutsch



Cross Lake Association of Pine County

Serving Cross Lake and the Lower Snake River

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2020 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Membership year runs from Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31, 2020)

Member Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Primary Email _____

Secondary Email (optional) _____

Pine City Address (if different than above) _____

_____ Send newsletter by email (environmentally Friendly & saves us money)

I would be willing to help with the following (circle all that apply)

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Governing Board | Membership | Newsletter | Boat Parade | Garage Sale |
| Senior Outing | Freedom Fest | County Fair | Fair Parade | Dinner Dance |

Membership Categories: (Check one)

- Regular \$25
 Contributing \$30-\$40
 Associate \$45-\$50
 Sustaining \$60-\$85
 Sponsor \$100+
 Lifetime \$500+
 Benefactor \$800+

Mail to: **The Cross Lake Association, P.O. Box 325, Pine City, MN 55063 website:**